



SA and NT Chapter of ANATS Ltd AGM, July 9th , 2023

Delivered by Katrina Ryan President of SA and NT Chapter ANATS Ltd

Welcome to all our members and committee members here today. We acknowledge this land that we meet on today is the traditional lands for the Kurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today. We also pay respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people visiting/attending from other areas of South Australia/Australia.

In October I will have completed one year as the President of the SA and NT chapter and overall, I have found it a rewarding experience. I wish to thank former presidents for their hard work and dedication to the SA and NT chapter, your hard work has not gone unnoticed. I would also like to especially acknowledge Stella Panozzo a former president who as the current treasurer, has provided me with guidance and support as I have navigated my way through this new role. I have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know the other presidents around the country with our monthly meetings and I have been encouraged by their enthusiasm for connecting singing teachers within our states and country.

The increasing opportunity for a more collaborative approach to events and professional development opportunities has seen ANATS develop in new ways post covid which can be seen as mutually beneficial especially for the smaller chapters, like ourselves and the ACT.

We are continually looking for ways to think more broadly about what we are offering in terms of events and seeking to offer unique opportunities which are different from those offered by other chapters. ANATS members are increasingly wanting to access webinars offered by other chapters and overall engage more in online professional development.

The SA and NT chapter seeks to look at a hybrid approach to events as well as becoming increasingly aware of events held by other states and collaborating with them to spread events evenly throughout the calendar. State presidents have been collaborating with each other to ensure topics are broad, covering a wide range of genres and addressing the current concerns of singing teachers. Additionally we aim to be open minded to a variety of approaches and methodologies and bring only the highest quality expertise to our members.

As chapters, we are in a changing landscape and seek to develop new ways to connect and share information. I maintain my commitment to increasing our membership and spreading the word about ANATS and the professional development opportunities. Unfortunately, member engagement in the chapter is quite low and we are seeking new ways to entice involvement and attendance at events, connecting with emerging SA and NT singing teachers and providing them with quality professional development by industry experts.

As a committee we would like to boost our members and member engagement and I have been looking at ways to improve SA representation at events. I would love to hear more from the members about what they would like to see happen at a chapter level to make participation more exciting. Currently our information is only reaching current members and we are not casting our net wide enough to attract new members. In addition to social media

marketing I believe the old fashioned 'spreading the word" and personal invitation amongst our peers and coworkers is the best way to see tangible change at least in the near future. Additionally increasing our committee and attendance at meetings would also enable us to have more manpower to promote the organisation and all it has to offer. It is my hope the committee will prioritise increasing membership throughout the coming year. We would also love more of our members to join the committee so they can have more say in the planning of events targeted to their needs.

We have seen a refreshed and enthusiastic committee in the past quarter which has seen the facilitation of our next event happening on August 27th. This is a very exciting event which has three exceptional presenters who represent the vocal remediation multidisciplinary team. Dr Theo Anthianadis, Melinda Privos and Miriam Voortman will guide singing teachers through the singer's vocal journey when a vocal injury occurs. This will empower us as singing teachers to have more knowledge about the processes involved in diagnosis and remediation and what to do when a singer presents with what we suspect is an injury. We are casting our promotion net wide but we also ask you as members to please spread the word about this important event and invite your colleagues and contemporaries to come along. This next event will hopefully be an opportunity to increase interest in joining the SA and NT ANATS chapter and hopefully enable us to develop some momentum to increase awareness across the board of the ANATS membership benefits.

To assist with member participation, I have also sought to implement a regular meeting time, the first Sunday of every month, to enable members to know when the meetings are held and hopefully entice participation in the chapter. This has so far been mostly unsuccessful with many members still preferring to zoom rather than meet in person. I have discussed this with the other presidents who encouraged me to persist with this in the hope it may improve over time as we recover from Covid and seek personal connection again and a thriving SA and NT ANATS community may unfold.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members who have attended today and also to thank the committee for all their hard work and energy that they put into our chapter. We hope to see many of you over the coming months participating in our upcoming events. You are very appreciated as is your feedback and participation. A collaborative effort is at the heart of a not for profit organisation so we can continue to cultivate our networks and promote best practice in singing and singing teaching for the betterment of others. Thank you kindly for your attendance today and I look forward to the upcoming year.